

April 1995

Profiles Encouraged: Barbara Dean

Editor

Follow this and additional works at: <https://docs.lib.purdue.edu/atg>

Recommended Citation

Editor (1995) "Profiles Encouraged: Barbara Dean," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 7: Iss. 2, Article 5.
DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.1717>

This document has been made available through Purdue e-Pubs, a service of the Purdue University Libraries. Please contact epubs@purdue.edu for additional information.

Profiles Encouraged:

Barbara C. Dean



Education: B.A. in History, Northern Illinois University in DeKalb; M.S. in L.S., University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill.

First job: My first job after college was as a secretary in the historical Research Department of Colonial Williamsburg Foundation in Williamsburg, VA. I was promoted to library clerk in the Department's library 4 years later only to leave for library school in another 4 years.

Library experience: My first professional job was as a monographs cataloger at the Pennsylvania State University, 1980 to 1984. It was a great job because the catalogers were involved in writing manuals to train the support staff to use our new automated system developed in-house. I also selected materials in anthropology and provided some bibliographic instruction for undergraduates. From 1985 to 1988, I was a program associate at the Council on Library Resources. The job was a real watershed for me because I had to think nationally rather than locally, learn much more than I ever had about libraries, and sharpen my analytical skills. It wasn't as good as working in a library, though, so I left to fulfill my dream of being an acquisitions librarian by taking a job at the Fairfax County (VA) Public Library.

Current job: I am currently an assistant coordinator in the Collection Management & Acquisitions Department. My job responsibilities include monograph and serials acquisitions, gifts, and interlibrary loan.

Residence: Burke, VA, an unincorporated village in the Washington, DC suburbs. I chose my condo because it overlooks trees and a small lake. I am also close enough to the District to take advantage of cultural activities there.

Activities: I am active in the Acquisitions Section of ALCTS, an associate editor for *Against the Grain*, and an adjunct faculty member in the library school of the Catholic University of America. I have taught a section of "Introduction to Technical Services" myself, but I have served most recently as a guest lecturer for this course talking about acquisitions and serials. This year I will be a coordinator for the Charleston Conference, a very exciting new project.

Family: I live with two cats who have taught me the purpose of my life is to do what they tell me. I also have a sister and three nieces who live in Kansas, and one honorary niece who lives close enough for me to take her out once in a while.

Last book read: Something by Julian Symons. I read a good deal of detective fiction and can never remember the titles, just the authors.

Interesting experience: I worked on an assembly line during the summer as a high school student putting the metal springs, or whatever they are called, in wire connectors. All the finished connectors went into a box under my work area. Someone would come around with a magnet and use it to stir the contents of the box to see how many springs were loose. If I had more than two loose springs, I was told to work harder.

Hobbies: Attending plays and concerts, visiting museums, antiques, and reading.

Favorite Spot: A guest house called the Eighth Maine on Peaks Island, Maine.

Pet Peeve: Drivers who honk at me in traffic when I can't do anything other than what I am doing.

Single most important piece of advice: Adapt to change.

On the Street

continued from page 25

product's ability to be networked, and whether the library currently owns the same product in print.

Only one of our 17 respondents said their library has a written collection development policy for electronic publications. Five libraries have written policies describing criteria generally, with two of them planning to add references to electronic media. Five other libraries do not have a written policy, but are working on one.

When we asked people for the names of two or three most heavily used products, we were rewarded with a long and varied list; the result, no doubt, of asking people in a wide variety of libraries. The two most frequently mentioned titles were **PsychLit** and **InfoTrac**, each noted five times. Products referred to at least twice were **MLA**, **Proquest**, **ERIC**, **ABI Inform**, **H.W. Wilson** products, and **Psych Abstracts**.

Libraries are clearly in the business of offering information electronically. Several are institutionalizing the presence of such products in their collections by adding them to their written collection development policies.

The following people participated in this survey: **Susan Sheridan** and **Margaret Grosebeck** of Amherst College; **Terri-Leigh Hinkle** of the University of New Hampshire; **David Turkalo** of the Suffolk University Law Library; **Julie Kobus** of Southern Connecticut State University; **Beth Jacoby** and **Gloria Rohmann** of New York University; **Barbara Knotts** of St. Louis Public Library; **Donna Heady** of Kenyon College; **Jeri Van Goethem** of Duke University; **Patricia A. Phillips** of the University of the South; **Linda P. Albright** of Winthrop University; **Della Darby** of Georgia College; **Carol Bardia** of the University of Miami; **Roy M. Mersky** of the University of Texas Law Library; **Kris Murphy** of Southern Methodist University, **Jay Harris** of the University of Alabama, and **Nancy Macomber** of Queens College. One person requested their name not appear. Thank you to all for your time and information.

"On the Street" may be making more frequent appearances in *ATG* in the future. Would you like to help us call folks, or contribute ideas and/or questions for a future survey? It doesn't take long to call people and it is an opportunity to talk with fellow librarians you haven't met before. If you would like to help, please contact **Barbara Dean** at 703-222-3139 or Internet : bdean@leo.vsla.edu.